

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1, 10, 12, 13, and 24. These sheets, which include Figs. 1, 10, 12, 13 and 24, replace the substitute sheets filed on April 1, 2002, that include Figs. 1, 10, 12, 13 and 24.

In Fig. 1, reference numerals 20-1 and 20-2, which are discussed in the present specification, for example, at page 15, lines 7-11, are added to denote the first end and the second end, respectively, of runner bar 20.

In Fig. 10, reference numeral 40-3, which is discussed in the present specification, for example, at page 16, lines 8-9, is added to denote the inlet opening at the rear of needle 40. Also in Fig. 10, the reference numeral used to identify the needle adapter is changed from 42 to 40-1 so as to be consistent with the specification, for example, at page 16, lines 3-6. Additionally in Fig. 10, reference numeral 40-2, which is discussed in the present specification, for example, at page 16, lines 7-8, is added to denote the needle lock.

In Fig. 12, reference numeral 42 is changed to 40-2 to properly denote the needle lock, and the existing reference numeral 40-2 and its lead line are deleted.

In Fig. 13, reference numeral 42 is changed to 40-2 to properly denote the needle lock.

In Fig. 24, reference numeral 42 is changed to 40-2 to properly denote the needle lock. In addition, reference letter A, which is discussed in the present specification, for example, at page 18, lines 10-12, is added to denote the upwardly directed arrow.

No new matter is added by the above-discussed changes.

Attachment: Replacement sheets

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified patent application in view of the proposed amendment above and the remarks below is respectfully requested.

Claims 18 and 24 have been canceled in this paper. No claims have been amended or added in this paper. Therefore, claims 10-17, 19-21, 23 and 25-28 are pending and are under active consideration.

Claims 10-17, 19-21, 23 and 25-28 have been allowed.

Claims 18 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Lankton (3,733,657) in view of Kato (4,467,656). Without acquiescing in the propriety of the rejection, Applicants have canceled claims 18 and 24. Therefore, the rejection is moot and should be withdrawn.

The drawings have been amended to correct minor errors.

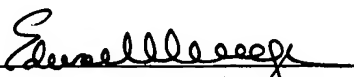
In conclusion, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Prompt and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper that are not accounted for, the Examiner is authorized to charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 11-1755. If a fee is

required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 that is not accounted for already, such an extension of time is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

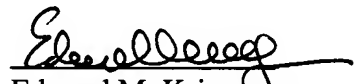
Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: June 17, 2005

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 17, 2005.


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Dated: June 17, 2005